Teaching Online Program

Program Overview

The Teaching Online Program (TOP) is a series of four badges focused on specific online teaching outcomes that are composed of modules. Paired with an instructional designer, participants can expect to spend 24-36 hours to complete one badge. The program introduces the instructional design and course alignment processes, emphasizes accessible course design and building practices, explores online course facilitation and management strategies, and promotes quality assurance standards for online teaching. Participants who complete the Teaching Online Program develop a high-quality accessible online course. Faculty may choose to participate in only one or up to all four levels.

Program Levels

To earn a digital badge, participants are required to complete and meet the criteria for one or more of the following program levels.

Online Course Design

This badge introduces the instructional design and course alignment processes and emphasizes quality assurance standards for online teaching. Participants apply the course mapping process and design organization and structure using online course quality guidelines.

Design with Accessibility in Mind

This badge presents the principles of Universal Design for Learning, a framework for optimizing teaching and learning for all people. Participants craft accessible content and design a fully online course with accessibility for all learners in mind.

Online Facilitation

This badge provides course management and facilitation strategies for online teaching. Participants evaluate their instructor presence as well as student needs for interaction and engagement. Participants create course interactions, activities, and assessments that foster social presence in an online course using various technology tools.

Design for Quality Assurance

This badge examines quality assurance for developing online courses. Participants explore and align their course with quality assurance standards. Participants also complete a course quality self-evaluation, a collaborative course review, and create a plan for continuous course improvement.

Program Outcomes

- Demonstrate alignment between course objectives and module topics, content, instructional activities and materials, course technology, and assessments

- Develop a course structure that adheres to Universal Design for Learning principles and a quality assurance rubric

- Apply different interactions and strategies to engage online students

- Apply effective management, facilitation, and continuous course improvement strategies to online teaching

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